

DEPARTMENT OF VETERANS AFFAIRS
Justification and Approval
Under
Simplified Acquisition Procedures (SAP)
For Restricting Competition under FAR 13.106-1(b)(2) "Single Source"

1. Contracting Activity:

Department of Veterans Affairs, Network Contracting Officer (NCO) 20 for Region 1
Office of Information and Technology (OI&T), Vancouver, WA.

2. Nature and/or Description of the Action Being Processed:

This procurement under PR #644-14-1-7790-0002 is a bridge contract for the continuation of local telecommunication services at VA facilities in Alaska, where in accordance with FAR 5.001 (a), acquisitions conducted under FAR 13 for SA (are exempt from the requirements of FAR Part 6, but still require a justification using the format of FAR 6.303-2, IAW the VHA SOP for Other Than Full And Open Competition dated 3-22-2011. The estimated three month service price is **\$78,000.00**.

3. Description Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:

Voice and data telecommunications services for VA facilities in Alaska from 1 October 2013 through 31 December 2013.

4. Statutory Authority Permitting Restriction in Competition:

The statutory authority for restricting competition under SAP, or Single Sourcing, for acquisitions in excess of Simplified Acquisition Threshold (SAT) is 41 U.S.C. 253(c), as implemented by FAR 13.106-1(b) (2).

5. Demonstration that the Contractor's Unique Qualification or Nature of the Acquisition Requires the Use of the Authority Cited Above (applicability of authority):

This work is an urgent requirement as the existing telephone service contract period of performance will expire on September 30, 2013. The service is pending transition to a Region 1 LEC contract at TAC. The current contract in place is VA260-13-P-2823 and there is no extension periods left. A temporary bridge contract must be established to prevent the cessation of local telecom services at the VA facilities in Alaska. Our incumbent contractor, General Communications Inc, is the only source that can meet all of the requirements associated with our urgent need to ensure we have uninterrupted services for this bridge contract period.

6. Description of Efforts Made to Ensure that Offers are Solicited from As Many Potential Sources as Deemed Practicable IAW FAR 13.104:

Under normal circumstances this procurement would fall under usual requirement for open-market competition and be open to bidding by any and all eligible contractors.

However, the urgent, critical need for uninterrupted services precludes procurement for this bridge requirement from any source other than the incumbent.

7. Determination by the Contracting Officer that the Anticipated Cost to the Government will be Fair and Reasonable – IAW FAR 13.106-3

The price reasonableness has been established as fair and reasonable in comparison with previous purchases (VA644-S22049 & S30233) for telecommunication services and is in the best interest of the Government.

8. Description of the Market Research Conducted and the Results, or Statement of Reasons Market Research was not conducted (FAR 10):

A limited amount of market research was conducted, due to urgency of the requirement. A search for potential suppliers was completed on GSA Advantage. The results of market research indicated the service is commercially available to meet the Government's need.

9. Any Other Facts Supporting the Restriction of Competition:

No other facts to report.

10. Listing of Sources that Expressed, in Writing, an Interest in the Acquisition:

FedBizOpps Posting: The requirement will not be synopsized in accordance with 5.202(a)2), in that this acquisition is being conducted under unusual and compelling urgency and the Government would be seriously injured if the agency complies with the time periods specified in 5.203.

11. Statement of Actions, if any, the Agency May Take to Remove or Overcome any Barriers to Competition before Making Subsequent Acquisitions for the Supplies or Services Required:

The proposed contract is for three months, to allow the VA VISN 20 Network Contracting Activity time to transition the service to a Region 1 LEC contract at TAC.

12. Requirements Certification – IAW FAR 6.303-2(c):

I certify that the requirement outlined in this justification is a bonafide need of Department of Veterans Affairs and that the supporting data under my cognizance, which are included in the justification, are accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.


Kathy Terpos
Program Manager

16-10-2013
Date

13. Approval IAW VHA SOP 3.22.11:

- a. **Contracting Officer's Certification:** (required) I certify that the foregoing justification is accurate and complete to the best of my knowledge and belief.

tracey.linn
a@va.gov

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tracey.linna@va.gov
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cn=tracey.linna@va.gov
Date: 2013.10.10
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Tracey Linna
Contracting Specialist
NCO 20 Acquisitions IT Team

Date

- b. **NCM/PCM/DESIGNEE:** I have reviewed the foregoing justification and find it to be complete and accurate to the best of my knowledge and belief and recommend approval for other than full and open competition.



Brian A. Thomas
NCO 20 Specialized Team Manager

10-11-2013

Date